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store of dry humor and a mind well stocked with reading, study and travel, he was much in demand for both public and private entertainments and filled with distinction a social position seldom attained in a city like New Orleans by one coming from without.

Judge Howe's work upon the Supreme bench of Louisiana showed courage, learning and conscientious discharge of his duties. He dared in a strong dissenting opinion to declare against the constitutionality of a state law which denied to one who in good faith had purchased for value a note originally given for the price of a slave the right to recover on the note. But the times were not favorable for any great judicial career in Louisiana, and the practice of the court which did not favor long opinions makes the reports of his decisions for the most part little more than a record of the conclusions reached. On the bench and in his subsequent career Judge Howe acquired a deserved distinction as a capable judge, an able counsellor and an effective lecturer. He lacked perhaps the attainments that would warrant calling him a great jurist, a great advocate or a great teacher. But if he fell short of the highest professional rank, his diversified interests, his large public spirit, the traits which won him the respect and esteem of the community and the affection of numerous friends, fully entitle him to be written down as "one who loved his fellow men" — and served them well.

WILLIAM H. DUNBAR.

LEONARD PARKER KINNICUTT (1854-1911)

Fellow in Class I, Section 3, 1883.

Leonard Parker Kinnicutt¹ was born in Worcester, May 22, 1854, the son of Francis H. and Elizabeth Waldo (Parker) Kinnicutt. He received his early education in the schools of Worcester, graduating from the high school in 1871. He went at once to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he devoted himself chiefly to the study of chemistry. Following his graduation in 1875 he spent four years in professional studies in Germany. At Heidelberg he came under

¹ This sketch was published by the writer in *Science* April 28, 1911.

the inspiring influence of Bunsen from whom he acquired an appreciation of the value of careful and accurate analysis. Here also under Bunsen's guidance he was initiated into the refinements of gas analysis. This was the period when organic chemistry was developing with tremendous rapidity especially in Germany. Bunsen had passed the zenith of his career and was not in sympathy with the new tendency which was manifesting itself in chemistry. It is not surprising then to find the young Kinnicutt leaving Heidelberg and matriculating at Bonn. Only ten years before, Kekulé had been called to the University of Bonn to take charge of the newly built laboratory which at that time was the finest in all Germany and after which later laboratories were patterned. Kekulé's was a charming personality. His lectures were a model for simplicity of arrangement and clearness of presentation, and the experimental demonstrations were carried out with such fascinating ease and dexterity that the young Kinnicutt was captivated by the spirit and beauty of organic chemistry and devoted himself diligently to its study.

He was fortunate in being accepted into the private laboratory of the master, where he became associated with Richard Anschütz, the present director of the Chemical Institute at Bonn. In collaboration with Anschütz he published a number of papers, chiefly on phenylglyceric acid. This association ripened into a lasting friendship. Returning to the United States in 1879, he spent a year in study with Ira Remsen at the Johns Hopkins University, and then three years at Harvard, where he served as instructor in quantitative analysis and as private assistant to Wolcott Gibbs, at that time Rumford Professor of Chemistry. In 1882 he received from Harvard the degree of doctor of science and in September of the same year accepted an appointment as instructor of organic chemistry at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. In the following January he became assistant professor of chemistry; three years later he was made full professor, and from 1892 was director of the department.

As early as 1885 Professor Kinnicutt began to give attention to the question of sewage disposal and sanitary problems. He became an authority on the sanitation of air, water and gas; on the methods of analysis and on the disposal of wastes. He paid particular attention to the examination of water and watersheds and the contamination of rivers and ponds by trade wastes and sewage. He made numerous reports, both as regards private and public water supplies.

He visited England on an average every other year since 1894, familiarizing himself with the work done in that country and the results were embodied in various articles which he published on the

subject. He paid special attention to the subject of the pollution of streams by wool-washings, and made a careful study of this problem at Bradford, England, where a greater amount of wool is washed annually than in any other city in England or in this country.

He was employed as an expert in numerous cases regarding the pollution of streams and ponds, and was one of the experts in the case of the pollution of the Mississippi River at St. Louis by the sewage of Chicago. In 1903 he was appointed consulting chemist of the Connecticut Sewage Commission, a position which he retained up to the time of his death. He was a frequent contributor to scientific periodicals and the proceedings of learned societies upon topics relating to his specialty.

In 1910 in collaboration with Professor C. E. A. Winslow, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Mr. R. Winthrop Pratt, of the Ohio State Board of Health, he published a book entitled "Sewage Disposal" which is considered to be one of the best treatises on the subject of sewage disposal in the English language.

Professor Kinnicutt's reputation was not confined to this country. He enjoyed a wide acquaintance, both in England and on the continent, and possessed the rare faculty of keeping ever fresh and active a friendship once established. One of his highest honors was the appointment as president of the Section of Hygiene of the International Congress of Applied Chemistry, which was held in Washington and New York in September, 1912. Even to within a few days of his death he continued to work with characteristic zeal in perfecting plans for the success of the section over which he was to have presided. Professor Kinnicutt was deeply interested in the sanitary problems of his native city, Worcester. He kept a careful watch upon the city's water supply. During the "water famine" of the winter of 1910 to 1911 he directed from his sick bed the tests to be made, had daily reports brought to him and outlined the policy by which, in his opinion, the city's health might be best safeguarded.

He devoted a great deal of time and money to secure a pure milk supply in summer for the babies in needy families, and at the time of his death he was a member of the Worcester Medical Milk Commission. Professor Kinnicutt was widely connected with scientific associations; he was a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, an active member of the C. M. Warren Committee from its foundation in 1893 and its chairman from 1903 to his death; a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, of which he was vice-president in 1904; a member of the American Chemical Society, and councillor for a succession of years; a member of the

Society of Bacteriology; a fellow of the New England Water Works Association; of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers; of the American Antiquarian Society, and of various foreign associations, including the Association of Managers of Sewage Disposal Works of England, the London Chemical Society, and the German Chemical Society. He was a member of several social clubs in Worcester and Boston and retained to a remarkable degree his interest in the alumni reunions of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, of the John Hopkins University and of Harvard University, and he rarely failed to be present and add his geniality to the general good cheer.

Esteemed and honored by the scientific world, and beloved by a wide circle of acquaintances, yet it was as a teacher that the true worth of his character manifested itself. Possessed of a broad training and knowledge of his subject, and a fund of personal experiences, with which he punctuated his lectures, he was enabled to drive home the truths which he desired to impress on the minds of his students. Interest in his students, however, did not cease with the lecture or the laboratory. He was ever ready to listen sympathizingly and indulgently to those students who were in distress, and to all such he gave liberally of his time and purse. This conscientious devotion to duty and unselfish human interest endeared him to the students and alumni. It came as a great shock to all when, after a delightful summer of European travel and the resumption of his academic duties, apparently in his usual good health, he was attacked by a slow fever which confined him to the house after but a few days of activity. The trouble was diagnosed finally as tuberculosis. He received his first warning that he had this insidious disease in his system when he was a student in Germany, but had apparently fully recovered from this earlier attack. It was hoped that a year's leave of absence and careful nursing would restore him to health and the resumption of a part at least of his former activities. Toward the end of January, 1911, however, his heart became seriously affected, and he failed rapidly until the end came peacefully on the morning of the sixth of February.

Professor William T. Sedgwick, a lifelong friend paid a fitting tribute to his memory when he said, "His was a unique, lovable and altogether charming personality. Kindness and friendship such as his life exemplified could no further go. He was critical, yet just; fearless, yet considerate of others; honest to a fault; a hard worker; and to a degree nowadays unusual, an accomplished and cultivated gentleman."

W. L. JENNINGS.